

## A NEW SPECIES OF *SENECIO* FROM COSTA RICA

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While collecting cytological material of Compositae in Costa Rica, during the summer of 1962, the author made a collection of *Senecio* which is apparently undescribed.

*Senecio costaricensis* King sp. nov.

Herba erecta 1.2-2 m alta, sine ramis. Folia alterna, pinnatifida usque ad 23 cm longa, usque ad 7 cm lata. Inflorescentiae laxae paniculatae corymbosae ca. 22 cm altae, 26 cm latae, bracteis lanceolatis pinnatifidis usque ad 8 cm longis, 4 cm latis. Capitula radiata, multiflora. Involucri bractee ca. 12, lanceolatae uniseriatae. Flores radii ca. 5, corolla flavescens, ligulata, tubo ca. 3.3 mm longo, ca. 0.3 mm diam., limbo ca. 4.5 mm longo, 1.3 mm lato. Flores disci ca. 15, perfecti, fertiles, regulares. Corolla hypocrateriformis 5-lobata, flava, 4 mm longa. Achaenia fulva, attenuata, ca. 1.2 mm longa, basi ca. 0.25 mm diam., apice 0.5 mm diam.

Coarse herb 1.2-2 meters tall; stem erect, green, chaffy, 7-8 mm in diameter, unbranched, striate; leaves alternate, sparingly short pubescent and dark green above, subglabrous and lighter green beneath, laciniately pinnatifid, sinuate dentate, up to 23 cm long, 7 cm wide; inflorescence a loose paniculate corymb, terminal, ca. 22 cm high and 26 cm wide; bracts laciniately pinnatifid, up to 8 cm long, 4 cm wide, sparingly short pubescent and darker green above, subglabrous and lighter green beneath; pedicels sparingly short-pubescent, many headed; phyllaries ca. 12, lanceolate, in one series, apex short-acute, sparingly short pubescent, dark brown, up to 4 mm high, ca. 1.5 mm broad; heads radiate, campanulate; ray florets 5-7, yellow, pistillate, tube ca. 3.3 mm long, ca. 0.3 mm in diameter, limb up to 4.5 mm long and 1.3 mm wide; scattered unicellular glands on outer surface of corolla tube up to 200  $\mu$  long; style branches 2, divergent, ca. 0.8 mm long, 200  $\mu$  in diameter, style tube 2.6-2.8 mm long, ca. 240  $\mu$  wide; stamens absent; disc florets 12-18, perfect, fertile, regular, 5 lobed, yellow; corolla salverform, up to 4 mm long; stamens 5; anthers ca. 1.5 mm long, ca. 100  $\mu$  wide; filaments 50-60  $\mu$  wide, 1.0-1.2 mm long, differentiated above into a prominent collar ca. 400  $\mu$  long, 80-100  $\mu$  wide, deeply channelled and with a broadly expanded cordate base, cells of collar regularly sub-quadrangle (12  $\times$  25  $\mu$ ), smooth; achenes dark brown, tapered, ca. 1.2 mm long, base ca. 0.25 mm in diameter, apex 0.5 mm in diameter, ribs uneven, 7-9 (8), pappus bristles 35-40, gray-white, ca. 4.0 long, serrate; pollen spherical, spiculate, ca. 20  $\mu$  in diameter.

Chromosome number,  $n = 20$  (Turner and King 1964).

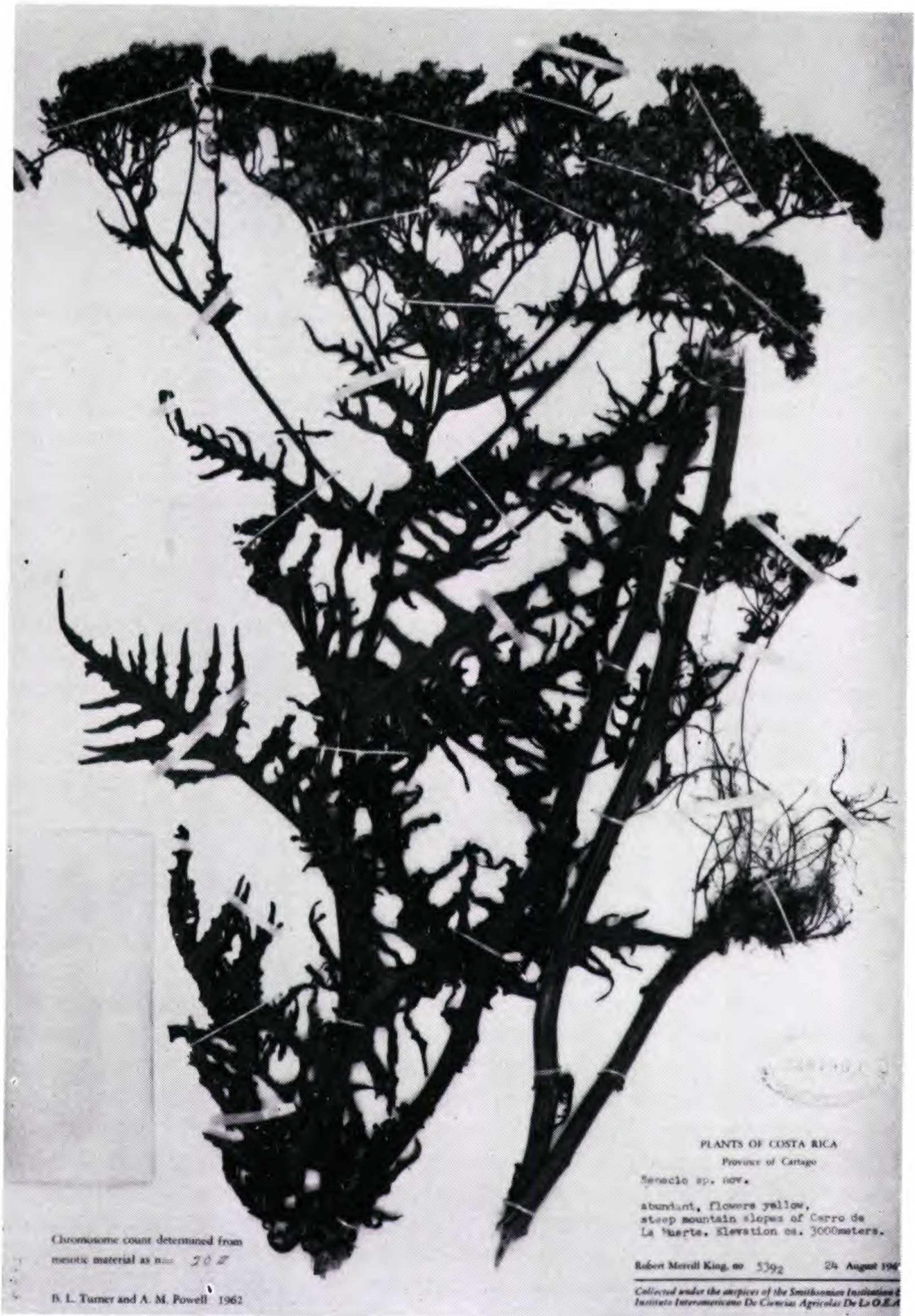


Plate 1312. *Senecio costaricensis*. (Holotype: King 5392) Habit ca.  $\times 1/3$ .

Holotype in the U.S. National Herbarium *R.M. King 5392* (2367999). Abundant, flowers yellow, steep mountain slopes of Cerro de la Muerte, Province of Cartago, Costa Rica. Elevation ca. 3000 meters. August 24, 1962. Isotypes: (MICH, TEX, and UC). Paratypes: *J. Cuatrecasas* and *J. León 26551*. Cordillera de Talamanca, Macizo del Buena Vista, Province of Cartago, Costa Rica. Elevation 3300-3400 meters. Nov. 8, 1961 (US). *Arthur Cronquist* and *A. F. Munos 8842*. Sphagnum bog along the Pan-American highway in the mountains south of Cartago, Province of Cartago, Costa Rica. Elevation about 2600 meters. Nov. 10, 1960 (NY).

*Senecio costaricensis* has the characters of the section *Eremophili* Greenman (1915) and shows considerable resemblance to *S. townsendii* Greenman. It differs from all members of the section in its generally larger habit, larger leaves, smaller bracts, larger inflorescences and fewer flowered heads.

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